



PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY BY
EDGAR SNOWDEN.

ALEXANDRIA:

FRIDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 25, 1859.

The debate in the Senate, on Wednesday, an abstract of which is given in another column, opened all the waters of strife and bitterness, with regard to Kansas, Slavery in the Territories, &c. Are we never to have done with this? Mr. Davis declared that Mr. Douglas had gone back to his first love of "squatter sovereignty." Mr. Douglas "scorned the policy of Southern men who would pander to a debased and dangerous popular sentiment." Mr. Bigler warned Southern Democrats not to force an issue of the kind suggested by the gentleman from Mississippi. (Mr. Brown.) unnecessarily upon the North, if they valued the permanency and success of the Democratic party. Mr. Doolittle declared that the Democratic party had committed suicide by repealing the Missouri compromise.

Mr. Broderick, one of the Senators from California, has, it is said, by nearly a unanimous vote of, at least, one branch of the Legislature of that State, been "instructed" to resign his seat. This "instructing" Senators has been carried to such an extent, and "instructions" are so often sent on upon the triumph of one party and the defeat of another, and upon all manner of public questions, that very little attention seems now to be paid to a subject which once was considered of great consequence. Many of the Senators appear to obey "instructions" or not, just as it suits them. And it might so happen—possibly, has happened—that they are "instructed" one year to do, exactly what they are "instructed" not to do the next.

Advices from Africa to the 27th of November, say that the sloop of Dale had arrived at Loando, after an interesting cruise in the Gulf of Guinea. At Elmina the Governor and Dutch officers of the Castle of St. George paid most distinguished consideration to the officers of the Dale, and the Governor and his wife were down in her as passengers to Aera. The Dale was to leave on the 1st of December for Cape Verde. She had been at sea almost constantly.

The Union argues that "the notion of wise retrenchment coming from Congress is preposterous: if efforts in that body were ever so sincerely made, there is an utter lack of information to guide and direct their efforts." If, then, Congress can't make retrenchments, and the Executive won't, we take it that "Retrenchment" is in a bad way, at this time. Nevertheless, we hope Congress will try.

It is stated that the private letters by the Africa speak in a more hopeful strain than do the journals, in reference to the political complications in Europe. Though present appearances are threatening, the belief is expressed that actual war will be avoided.—This opinion is shared by many eminent bankers and business men in Liverpool and London.

Mr. Mason's proposition, as a substitute for Mr. Slidell's Cuba bill, is not favorably received by the Cuba acquisitionists. Some of them say, it is a retreat, or back out—others that it looks like want of confidence in the President. At any rate, the opinion now is, that Mr. Slidell's bill cannot pass Congress at this session.

The Stenton Spectator argues that the unwavering consistency with which Mr. Letcher has always sustained his own party, ought to rebuke any Whig, who should feel tempted from personal or other considerations to vote for him, as the Democratic nominee, at the approaching election.

Leigh Hunt, now in his seventy-fifth year, the author of fifty or more books, has commenced a series of papers commenting on men and things—a kind of British "Autocrat of the Breakfast Table"—in the London Spectator. He entitles these articles "The Occasional."

Hon. Sherard Clemens, member of Congress from Virginia, who was so severely wounded in the duel with Mr. Wise, left Washington on Tuesday, for Wheeling. A special car was obtained from the railroad company for his use, as he is yet confined to his bed.

It is said that the amount of donations to the funds of the Mount Vernon Association, for the purchase of Mount Vernon, on the 22d inst., throughout the country, did not equal expectations in that behalf.

The Fredericksburg Herald says:—"Shad and Herring are making their appearance in our market, though they are by no means plentiful. Other varieties of the finny tribe are abundant."

Rev. W. W. Williams has declined the call to Christ Church, Baltimore, and accepted the invitation to the Rectory of St. James' Church, Leesburg. He will enter on the discharge of his duties about the last of March.

The New York Surrogate has decided in favor of the validity of a verbal or unwritten will, made by a person at sea, but who died after reaching home.

"Old Burrell," of Caroline County, Va., whose death is announced about once a year, is reported as still in the land of the living.

Westcott, the sculptor, has erected in Greenway Hospital, a statue to the memory of Sir John Franklin and his companions.

The 22d of February was celebrated in Leesburg, Va., in a patriotic manner.

"The Old Bachelor's Soliloquy and Dream," from a valued correspondent in Clarke County, will appear in a few days.

The Bedford Democrat pays the following high compliment to Mr. Goggin, which, coming from a near neighbor and political adversary, is highly creditable to both parties. "Mr. Goggin is a most excellent gentleman. In the social circle, and in all the private relations of life, he is as much respected by Bedford Democrats as Bedford Whigs. If the fates have decreed that a Whig is to preside as Chief Magistrate over the destinies of this good old Democratic Commonwealth, he would be as acceptable to us as any other member of his party; but personal considerations have nothing to do with the exercise of the right of suffrage in political elections. It is one of the most beautiful features in our system of Representative government, that a man's vote at the polls in political elections, represents his political opinions. Mr. Goggin is as far removed from the Democrats of Bedford in the politics as the North pole is from the South. He is an old line Henry Clay Whig. They have been taught in quite a different school. In a word, they are antipodes in politics, and they differ widely and irreconcilably. They respect and admire the man, but they have felt his hard knocks ever since he entered upon the political arena."

On Monday afternoon, a scene of excitement occurred at the Chester street School, in Philadelphia, which at one time, it was feared, would result in the death or fatal injury of some of the children. One of the children had dropped a piece of gutta serena comb from the upper room through the register into the store below, causing an immense volume of smoke to suddenly issue into the room. This gave rise to a cry of fire, when the children rose en masse, and rushed in a body for the door, notwithstanding the utmost efforts of the teacher to allay the excitement. The terror-stricken pupils rushed pell-mell down the stairs, and as the excitement extended to the other rooms, the stairway soon became so jammed up that it was impossible for any one to get into or out of the place. A number of gentlemen who happened to be in the vicinity, soon succeeded in clearing the stairway. Four or five of the children fainted, and three others were bruised by jumping over the banisters.—None were seriously injured.

The Fredericksburg News advocates the location of William and Mary College, for the future, at Fredericksburg. Along with grave arguments, the News adduces, in good humor, the following reason, for the change:—"Another point we would press, and which the Governor will appreciate, is our firm conviction that civilization and oysters go 'hand in hand.' The measure of civilization is the excellence and abundance of oysters a community enjoys. Hence tide water Virginia surpasses the rest of the world in true civilization, and by sending oysters on the railroad we are gradually elevating and refining our Western wilds. Williamsburg has always had good oysters. York River bivalves are not unknown to fame. But they cannot compare with the Rappahannock oysters, as all will admit who have tried both. Our oysters are as far superior to those Williamsburg affords, as George Washington was superior to Sir William Berkeley." [But old Williamsburg will have the College, and the oysters, too.]

The Commissioner of Pensions, states, in a report made to the Senate's Committee on Pensions, that if the bill granting pensions to the officers and soldiers of the war of 1812, were to become a law,

1. The amount it would be necessary to appropriate at the present session would be about \$29,750,710.

2. That the average sum annually requisite thereafter would be about \$8,800,000 for ten years.

3. That the aggregate sum necessary to extinguish all claims that may be preferred under the bill will not be less than \$103,000,000.

4. That the increase in the clerical force of the office will be about double the present number, and the expense of such increase, including contingencies and the compensation of agents for paying pensions, about \$555,000 per annum.

The Richmond Dispatch publishes a letter from Boston, which states that a gentleman from that city, by the name of Hobson, while on a visit to Boston, was placed under the head, "Have we a slave catcher among us?" his name, personal appearance, business, residence, and the hotel at which he was stopped, being given, with the intimation that he was in search of a fugitive slave. It is added, however, that this outrage was not favored, for the placards were torn down by the respectable citizens wherever they were seen.

An important pamphlet, bearing the title "Napoleon III. and Italy," has made its appearance in Paris and attracted great attention. Some parts of it are ascribed to the pen of the Emperor himself. The principle running through it, is the necessity for the regeneration of Italy, and the clearing paragraph maintains that, while "creating are to be respected as the law and the guaranty of international relations, they cannot prevail over public opinion and policy, but on condition of responding to the wants, the developments, the transformations, and the requirements of modern society."

The House of Representatives has adopted an amendment to the Post Office bill offered by Mr. Branch, of N. C., providing that the sums appropriated for the erection of post office buildings remain in the Treasury unexpended until the end of the present fiscal year, and be re-appropriated for the year 1860. An amendment, offered by Mr. Phelps, was also adopted, providing that if the revenue hereby appropriated shall be insufficient for the support of the Post Office Department, the deficiency shall be paid out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Mr. James Neeson has been nominated for the State Senate by the Democrats of the Marion district. Mr. Neeson is one of the ablest men in the Northwest. He was a member of the State Convention of 1850-51, and ranked among the most promising members of that body.

The ship Mary Adeline, of Thomaston, Maine, caught fire at New Orleans on the 22d, among the cotton in her hold. The firemen filled her hold with water to extinguish the fire. She had 2,000 bales on board, and was loading for Cork, Ireland.

We are assured by a gentleman, says the Norfolk Herald, that a hen, the only one on her premises, and cooped in such a way that there was no possibility of deception, actually laid five eggs yesterday, two in the morning and three in the afternoon.

An interesting family in New York has been thrown into deep distress by the abstraction of ten thousand dollars from a Brooklyn bank, by the first teller, who has absconded and left his sureties to foot the bill.

TELEGRAPHIC DESPATCHES.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23, 10 P. M.—Discussion still continues in the Senate upon the subject of slavery in the Territories. Senators Douglas and Davis of Miss., have each been upon the floor a half dozen times in controversy, but no such ill-feeling exists among Democratic Senators as did at the last session.

The Republican Senators did not decide this morning whether or not to go for Senator Mason's amendment in lieu of the Slidell thirty million bill. They threaten to speak out the session if extreme measures are pressed before the appropriation bills.

There is a large body of New England manufacturers here opposing a change of the tariff of 1857.

NEW YORK, Feb. 23.—It is believed that the defalcation in the Atlantic Bank exceeds thirty thousand dollars. The teller (Mr. Field) has been in the employ of the bank for six years, and officers an implicit confidence, he acquired the habit of embezzlement, and it is supposed lost money in that way. No legal steps have yet been taken to arrest him. The bank has a capital of half a million of dollars, and the surplus in December was \$108,000, or nearly double the amount lost.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—A careful canvass of the House shows thirty-one majority in favor of Mr. Phillips' tariff bill.

The committee on military affairs, of the Senate, have agreed to report unanimously in favor of the payment of the Massachusetts claim for money paid in supporting troops in time of war.

Boston, Feb. 23.—Letters from Senator Sumner of Massachusetts, received yesterday, say that his health is much improved, and he hopes to be able to resume his seat in the event of an extra session.

PARKERSBURG, Va., Feb. 23.—The Ohio at this point fell six feet last night. The water is now rapidly subsiding, and the river will be in good boating order in a day or two.

Boston, Feb. 23.—Aux Cayes advices to the 6th inst., have been received. All was quiet there, and preparations were making for the reception of Godard. Import and export duties were to be modified. Coffee was scarce.

An ex-Duke at Aux Cayes had endeavored to rouse public feeling against Gen. Gelfard, but he was unsuccessful.

NEW ORLEANS, February 21.—President Fowkes left for Marshall, Texas, on Saturday, to be present at the sale of the Pacific road on the first of March. He has published a statement showing a deficit of \$200,000 in the affairs of the company, and says that he shall rely the road for the stockholders of the old company under judgment of the court.

LOUISVILLE, Feb. 22.—The Kentucky Opposition Convention met to day. Ex-Governor Letcher presides. A committee was appointed to report the resolutions. An immense crowd has congregated and nearly every county in the State is represented.

NEW YORK, Feb. 23.—Ten thousand dollars worth of shares of F. O. J. Smith's Union Telegraph line between this city and Boston were sold at auction yesterday for \$2,550.

Retrenchment.—Again.

Retrenchment was the fashion of the day in 1824—when the administration of the government cost \$13,000,000 per annum, and the manifestations upon the subject by the Democracy in Congress went far to swell the vote by which the sage of the Hermitage was elevated to the Presidency. But the hue and cry then, as will be the case now, terminated in nothing more practical than the transmission of an unprecedented amount of mail matter, carefully addressed to poor deluded, over-confiding, self-sacrificing, magnanimous Buncombe!

Upon that occasion Mr. Randolph, the genius of his times, yes, and the genius of America, as a legislator, remarked:

"Sir, whenever money is plenty, and everything is at the highest price, that price, forms a very good reason why salaries must be raised. And when all things have fallen, and the price is depressed, for aught I know, ninety per cent, then, sir, the times are so hard that salaries cannot be reduced, but, on the contrary, should be raised. Sir, in reference to the emolument that happens—which happens in certain other institutions—where the directors, the cashiers, and the Presidents take good care of themselves, but are quite regardless of the stockholders; Sir, in this government the people are the stockholders, and all I look at in any public man is, whether he is for the stockholders or for the directors. That is my test, my touchstone, for aught I care. Yes, when all things are so hard, when all things are cheap, when all things are dear, when all things are cheap, when all things are dear, because the cheapness of everything shows the scarcity of money, and that the times are hard. So, sir, to use one of my homely phrases, and that language is understood by the people, and is the only language I will ever use when speaking to them—the game amounts to this: Cross, the people lose; and Pile, their rulers win."

With due deference to the exalted position of Congress, we will venture to remark, that a Randolph, for the country's good, was never so much needed in that body as at this time.

If a regeneration of official morality is to be undertaken—if retrenchment is to become the order of the day—if we are not to become the republicans virtues of our patriotic fathers, the axe must be applied to the root of the evil. The seat of life must be rendered sound before the extremities can be made to assume a healthful condition.—*Washington States.*

Mr. Goggin's Record.

Some of the Democratic organs are trying to make capital out of Mr. Goggin's vote upon the joint resolution annexing Texas to the United States.

Mr. Goggin did not choose to vote for the annexation of Texas, and therefore, argue these sapient logicians, is no friend to the South. So might every man who now resists the purchase of Cuba—beginning with that Palidan of the South, Mr. Boyce—who is so ultra-Southern as to favor free-trade, direct taxation, and the re-opening of the slave-trade—be regarded as our enemy.

Mr. Clay, who is now admitted by the Democratic party to have been one of the purest and most unselfish patriots that ever lived, opposed with all the power of his burning and thrilling eloquence.—*Lynchburg Virginian.*

William and Mary College.

There was a very stirring celebration at Williamsburg, on last Saturday, of the 160th anniversary of William and Mary College. The Norfolk Argus says, large numbers of the Alumni were gathered there, and with the visitors, students and citizens, made the ancient capital gay, indeed. The ruins of the College buildings looked desolate, and the heart of every Alumnus was saddened at the sad spectacle of his Alma Mater in ashes. A poem was read by St. George Tucker, and an address delivered by ex-President Tyler, before the Alumni and guests.

Gov. Wise was among the speakers at the banquet which followed.

The visitors have determined to re-build the College on the old site, immediately, and they call on the Alumni throughout the State for assistance. William and Mary will not be suffered to go down.

Rappahannock County.

Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.

WASHINGTON, Rappahannock Co., Feb. 16.—On Monday last, that being Court day, the "harmonious Democracy" had a nomination meeting for the Legislature, characterized, as usual, by a scene of the "grandest confusion," in which imprecations, shouts, screams and yells, taunts, imprecations, and frantic gestures, were the order of the day. The untutored never presented a more discordant spectacle. Indeed, the work of extermination has fairly commenced!

The "mountain in labor," after groaning terribly, brought forth, at last, the nomination of Mr. Absalom Jordan, attended with great noise and confusion, to the apparent chagrin of some. The nomination was hotly contested by the friends of Col. Zeph. Turner, several of whom, upon the subject of their defeat, openly avowed their intention to vote against the nominee. Indeed, the party here are hopelessly divided! The proceedings of Monday have produced wounds beyond the aid of medicine to reach.

"For never can true reconciliation grow,
Where wounds of deadly hate have pierced so deep."

After the affair was over, to the great joy of the more orderly of our citizens, a large and patriotic Whig meeting was organized by a call from that scarred and gallant old veteran of Whiggery, Col. Charles Green, whose "white plumes" waved amid the ranks of war" for forty years; and where the hottest fire was seen and heard, there he has always taken his position, and never has been known to waver in his faith in the immortal principles and policy of the Whig party.

Col. M. W. Detheridge took the Chair, and J. R. Popham was appointed Secretary, when, by the most enthusiastic acclamation, Walter B. Hackley, our present able and efficient representative, was declared the nominee, in response to a very spirited call of his party, came forward and most gracefully made an eloquent speech, accepting the nomination. [Mr. Hackley's speech will be published hereafter.]

Virginia Misrepresented.

We find in the columns of a recent issue of the New Orleans Crescent, (a capital paper, by the way,) a paragraph or two concerning the "Old Dominion," which, unfortunately, produce an erroneous impression. Our intensely "sunny south" contemporary says:—"A terrible disaster menaces the 'Old Dominion,' and the F. F. V.'s are in a state of immense consternation. The winter has nearly gone, and in a great portion of the State no ice has formed to stock the ice houses, with which every plantation is supplied. This conduct of the weather is a direct attack upon the most cherished custom of the chivalry of Old Virginia, which is to drink cold juleps as a medicinal, cooling, and refreshing beverage, and to eat their provisions. A deep seated and general popular disaffection throughout the Virginia realm is gaining strength, and the result will doubtless be a large emigration to some more northerly State, where nature will interpose no barriers to bilious propensities."

"Another matter is agitating the Old Dominion just now—the 'oyster fundum' business—as to which we are somewhat inclined to agree with Gov. Wise, who thinks that dredgers from abroad should pay something for the privilege of taking oysters from the rivers and harbors of Virginia. About nine millions of bushels are annually spirited away by the boats of Jerseymen and New Yorkers, a tax of but three cents per bushel upon which would yield an annual State revenue of over \$250,000."

The ice crop has not entirely failed throughout the State. In the rural districts, we hear that many ice houses have been well filled. The cities never suffer for ice, it matters not how mild the winter may prove.—Large supplies are invariably brought from the hyperborean regions. Nor is it now the universal custom in Virginia to drink cold juleps, systematically, morning, noon, and night. We know thousands in Virginia who completely ignore cold juleps—never think of them—never touch them—not once in five years, much less, morning, noon, and night, as regularly as they take their meals. They find in the pure, limpid, sparkling water, undiluted with anything stronger—a most refreshing, life-giving and spirit-cheering beverage. And the number of those who eschew juleps and strong drink in Virginia is daily increasing, if all we hear be true, and we have every reason to believe that all that reaches us on this subject.

The "oyster fundum," to which the Crescent alludes, now excites but little public attention. Virginia waters contain bivalves enough to supply the world, and we are not a selfish people.—*Petersburg Express.*

The Locusts in 1859

MESSRS. GATES & SEATON: The locust will appear the approaching spring in seven different districts of the country, viz:

1st. In the whole Valley of Virginia, from near the top of the Blue Ridge Mountain on the east, the Potomac river on the north, to the Tennessee and North Carolina lines on the south, and several counties on the west. They will probably occupy a considerable portion of both North Carolina and Tennessee, overlapping other districts.

2d. In North Carolina, from Raleigh to Petersburg, Virginia, and adjacent counties in both States.

3d. In St. Mary's county, Maryland, the southern part of the county, occupying about one-half the county.

4th. In North Carolina, Rowan, Davis, Calabash, Iredell, and adjacent counties.

N. B. The above are all of the northern tribe, or seventeen years' locusts, and will commence emerging from about the 5th to the 15th of May.

5th. In Georgia, Gwinnett, DeKalb, Newton, and adjacent counties.

6th. In Tennessee, in the northern middle part.

7th. In Mississippi, in all the eastern portion of the State, from the Gulf of Mexico, to the Mississippi river, and about forty-five miles from the Mississippi river to the eastern boundary of the State, and probably extending into the States on the east.

The three last districts belong to the southern tribe, or thirteen years' locusts. They will begin to emerge about the 20th of April, in the extreme southern district in Mississippi, to the 5th of May in Georgia.

GIDEON B. SMITH.

—Nat. Int.— Baltimore, Md.

Important Debate in the Senate.

In the Senate, on Wednesday, the hour of 1 o'clock having arrived, the executive, legislative, and judicial appropriation bill was taken up.

The question was upon the motion of Mr. Hale, to add "the following to the bill, as an additional section:

Sec. 1. *That if it further enacted,* 'An act for the admission of the State of Kansas into the Union,' approved May 4, 1858, be and the same is hereby amended, by striking out the following words, viz: 'Whenever it is ascertained by a census duly and legally taken, that the population of the said Territory equals or exceeds the ratio of representation required for members of the House of Representatives in the Congress of the United States;' which words are hereby repealed.

Mr. Stuart, of Michigan, said he had always been opposed to the restriction which it was proposed to repeal, and would vote accordingly, but he regretted that the exciting subject had been thus brought before the Senate.

Mr. Seward said he was surprised at the gentleman's remarks. Congress had said that Kansas would accept the Lecompton constitution, she could not come into the Union until she had a population of 235,429. He thought that every man opposed to the Lecompton constitution would embrace the first opportunity to repeal it.

Mr. Brady expressed the opinion that every State coming into the Union should have the population required for a representative in Congress. He was, however, willing to admit Kansas either as a free or slave State, with the fractional part of the representative ratio which entitled South Carolina to a member of Congress; but a census was necessary to ascertain her population. This was a question which would have an important bearing upon the next Presidential election.

The gentleman from Michigan, (Mr. Chandler,) had anticipated the success of his party in this contest, he with equal confidence expected a triumph of his party. But in this matter he neither wished to cheat or be cheated. He wanted a full understanding, and he desired a triumph of principle.—The spoils of office to the people were as sound in brass or a tinkling cymbal. The South wanted her rights in the Union and she wanted the Dred Scott decision faithfully carried out. By that decision it was affirmed by the Supreme Court, that the citizens of all sections of the country had the right to carry their property into the territories, but the right was valueless unless it carried with it the obligation to make laws to sustain that right. If laws to protect slavery did not exist in the territories, the right to take slave property there was a nullity. The constitutional right must be sustained by positive enactment. It was the duty of the Territorial Legislatures to frame laws accordingly, and if they failed to do so, it was the duty of Congress, whose creatures they were, to provide them with their powers and carry out the provisions of the constitution, and being of a peculiar character, peculiar laws should be enacted in its behalf. American ships on the high seas were entitled under the constitution to protection, but how could it be afforded without legislative enactments. He regarded the Territorial Legislatures as the mere creatures of Congress, and their powers should be annulled if they did not discharge their duty in providing protection for all species of property. He denied most emphatically their right to exclude slavery.

Mr. Douglas, of Ill., energetically defended his doctrine of popular sovereignty, and congressional non intervention, and reiterated doctrines concerning the force of the Dred Scott decision and slavery in the territories, enunciated during his recent campaign in Illinois. He held to its fullest extent the power of the people of the territory to decide the question of slavery for themselves. He thought they possessed the right of self-government as fully as the people of a State, and should not be subjected to congressional interference. This was the doctrine of the Cincinnati platform—it was the doctrine of Mr. Buchanan's interpretation he could not have carried a single Northern State. The Cincinnati platform conceded the right of the people of a territory to exclude or admit slavery as they chose, and under no other construction would a Northern State have voted for Buchanan, and he wished Southern Senators to understand that fact. Mr. Brown wanted to force slavery upon a people whether they desired it or not. He wanted the people to decide the matter for themselves.

He believed that under the Dred Scott decision a southern man, on an abstract right, could take his slave into any territory of the United States, but he could not hold it there unless the legislature passed laws for his protection, and they had the right to refuse to do so if they chose. In reply to a question propounded by Mr. Bigler, he replied that he did not recognize black men as citizens—this was a government of white men.

[Applause being manifested in the galleries, which were densely crowded, the chair gave orders that they should be cleared if the disturbance was repeated.]

Mr. Douglas, in concluding his speech, said there was no use for excitement or anger upon this subject. If southern men could not stand upon the same platform with him, it was better quietly to separate. The Senator from Mississippi said that he wished neither to cheat or be cheated. He had hoped he had met him in a kind and friendly spirit, and that his position had been clearly and unequivocally defined.

Mr. Davis replied to Mr. Douglas elaborately, denying that he rightly interpreted the obligations of the democratic party.

Mr. Pugh said that Mr. Brown had asked if northern democrats would vote for congressional intervention to protect slave property against local legislation. He would answer—never! It is monstrous. It is against the pledged faith of both the South and the North.

Mr. Pugh discussed the question at length, and said he stood on the platform of his party with the interpretation which he explained.

Mr. Green said he was sorry this subject of contention had been brought forward to try to bring discord into the democratic party—the only party able to override the public opinion. He hoped and believed that there was no difference between the North and South. A government is formed to protect persons and property, and when it ceases to do either, it ceases to perform one great function. Mr. Hale's amendment had brought up the question—What is property? He maintained that under the constitution and by the decision of the Supreme Court, slaves are property, and he argued the subject in many aspects, concluding by calling on the democratic party to stand united.

Mr. Hunter differed from the Senator from Illinois, both as to the history of the Kansas Nebraska bill and its interpretation. The Southern men did agree to leave the whole question of the right of the people to frame their institutions in abeyance, to be decided by the courts. The bill did not mean to say that Congress absolutely gave up its jurisdiction on that subject.

Mr. Broderick agreed to everything that had been said by the Senators from Illinois, (Mr. Douglas,) and from this, (Mr. Pugh.)

Mr. Bigler, in favor of Congressional interference in favor of slavery, but thought there might be a case where interference would be necessary. He stood on the Democratic platform, but would stand by the decision of the Supreme Court.

Several others participated in the debate and they adjourned.

About midnight, Mr. Hale's amendment to the General Appropriation bill, providing for striking out the representative population clause of the Kansas act, was rejected—yeas 42, nays 27—as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Broderick, Cameron, Chandler, Clark, Collamer, Dixon, Doolittle, Douglas, Durkee, Fessenden, Foot, Foster, Hale, Harlan, King, Seward, Trumbull, Wade, and Wilson—27.

NAYS—Messrs. Blair, Chesnut, Claiborne, Crittenden, Davis, Fitch, Fitzpatrick, Green, Gwin, Houston, Hunter, Iverson, Johnson of Arkansas, Johnson of Tennessee, Kennedy, Lane, Polk, Pugh, Reid, Rice, Sebastian, Slidell, Smith, Toombs, Ward, and Yulee—42.

The bill was then passed—yeas 27, nays 16.

The War Question in Parliament.

The opening of the British Parliament was expected to throw some light upon the subject, but the allusions of the Queen's speech to the difficulties which are menacing the state, are delicate and light, and do not refer simply to her solicitude to maintain treaties inviolate and preserve the public peace.

In the debate which followed the speech, there was more positive tone. Lord Derby, as Premier, denied emphatically the existence of any understanding, on the part of England, with any foreign power, whatever, which might fetter her free action in the case of hostilities. Neither did he know of any difficulties existing between the European governments which might not be settled without resort to the dreadful alternative of war. At the same time he spoke of the state of Northern Italy as that of a slumbering volcano, and he so far betrayed his proclivities as to assert that the hold of Austria on Italy was of a kind with which neither England nor any nation, on any pretext whatever, had a right to interfere. He condemned in express terms the proceedings of Sardinia. He stated also, that the government had received assurances from the Emperor of the French, that he would not countenance or assist Sardinia in an aggressive or unjustifiable war. But he did not say who was to judge as to the aggressive or proprietary of the war.

Palmerston, the greatest diplomatist of the century, and the statesman of England, minutely acquainted with foreign affairs, was tame in his remarks; he merely spoke of war as probable; no word escaped him as to the freedom or independence of Italy; he thought it most undesirable that Austria should possess provinces south of the Alps, as it made her an object of hatred; still the treaty of 1815, signed by all the great powers of Europe, had guaranteed these provinces to Austria, "and no single power was entitled to violate that treaty without good cause." So that in reality his statement was simply that no single power should attempt to dispossess Austria without a fair pretext. The armed occupation by Austria of other parts of Italy—of Rome, for example—no treaties had guaranteed, and this was a fair ground of complaint. The remedy briefly proposed by him was the withdrawal of foreign troops from Rome, and the reformation of abuses in Central Italy.

Disraeli, the chancellor of the exchequer, replied on the side of peace.

Legal Effect of Repeating Hearsay Statements.

In the last volume of Gray's Massachusetts Supreme Court Reports, there is a notable decision. It seems that a woman uttered a slander of another, and when sued for it, her defence was that she only repeated what was currently reported; that she had no malice, and therefore was not liable to an action.—Judge Thomas gave the decision. The story he says, uttered or repeated by the defendant, contains a charge against the plaintiff of a nature to destroy her reputation. It was a false charge. It is an answer in any forum to say that she only repeated the story as she heard it. If the story was false and slanderous, she must repeat it at her peril. There is safety in no other rule. Often the origin of slander cannot be traced. He who gives it circulation gives it its power of mischief. It is the successive repetitions that do the work. A falsehood often repeated gets to be believed. A man cannot say there is a story in circulation that A. poisoned his wife, or B. picked C's pocket, and relate the story, and when called upon to answer, say, "There was such a report in circulation; I but repeated what I heard, and had no design to circulate or confirm it." For two very plain reasons—first, that the repetition of the story, and the nature of things, make it impossible to trace the petition, without the expression of disbelief, will confirm it. The danger is an obvious one and long since pointed out; and it is, that bad men may give currency to slanderous reports and then find in that currency their own protection from the just consequences of a repetition.

A correspondent of the Home-Steak gives the following:

"It won't do to laugh at Connecticut any longer for wooden nutmegs. New Hampshire has beat her, and must be the banner State for rogues. I see in the newspapers that the legislature of that State has been obliged to repeal the law offering a bounty for the destruction of crows, in consequence of the practice which has prevailed of procuring crows' eggs and hatching them under hens, and bringing forward the brood for the bounty!"

SUMMERDEN WHISKY.